



LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION COMMISSION

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A Weekly Compilation of Environmental Education News from Across Louisiana

LEEC NEWS

ONLY A FEW SPOTS LEFT FOR WATERSHED WEBS LUMCON WORKSHOP

If you plan to attend the 4-day Watershed Webs workshop at the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium in Chauvin, the time to act is now! Only a few spots are still available. Registrants must teach in NOAA-defined coastal counties. Check [this list](#) to see if you qualify.

This workshop features lots of outdoor activities including a beach cleanup and water quality testing, as well as lessons and activities geared around the data you and your students collect. Recipients receive a stipend along with lots of materials and resources to take back to the classroom. Participants will have the opportunity to bring their students on an LEEC-led field experience next fall.

Find more information at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/professional-development-opportunities>.



Above: students participate in a beach cleanup field experience.
Left: educators learn how to collect data at a workshop.



BIODIVERSITY WORKSHOP NEARS

The LEEC is conducting a one-day Discovering Biodiversity workshop in Lake Charles on Wednesday, June 29, 2016 at Barbe High School. Attendees will receive a \$50 stipend, up to 7 professional contact hours, a selection of related lessons, plus a book, DVD and poster. Recommended for educators in grades 5-12.

Find the registration form online at:

http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/document/40044-discovering-biodiversity-application-form/registration_form.pdf and the workshop flyer at:

http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/document/40045-discovering-biodiversity-flyer/flyer_0.pdf.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

ROOKERY RESTORATION PROJECT COMPLETE

Thanks to a grant from the Shell Marine Habitat Program through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) has completed restoration of the Bayou Platte Waterbird Rookery at Marsh Island Refuge.

Located in Iberia Parish between Vermilion Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, Marsh Island is home to two island rookeries which make up the Bayou Platte Waterbird Colony. These two islands are the only colonial seabird rookeries in the Vermilion/Cote Blanche Bay complex.



Black skimmers and gull-bill terns at Marsh Island. Photo by Tyson Crouch.

This year marks the first nesting season since the restoration of the islands was completed, and the rookeries are already proving to be very productive. This season an estimated 2,000 nesting pairs of birds have taken up residence on the rookeries, which far exceeds the project goal of 500 nesting pairs.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NATURE-BASED PRESCHOOL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Registration is open for the fourth Nature-Based Preschool National Conference in St. Paul, MN at the Dodge Nature Center and Preschool. Join us August 15-17 for engaging speakers, sessions, networking, and field experiences, all designed for professionals working in nature and forest preschools.

[Download the registration guide](#) for all the details on the event, travel information, and more.

LAGNIAPPE

TEN WILDLIFE RESTORATION SUCCESS STORIES

Most Americans can name the bald eagle as an example of a species rescued from near extinction, and Louisianans are sure to mention the American alligator when the topic arises. Check out [this article on the Department of Interior website](#) for several more wildlife wins.

AUDUBON NATURE INSTITUTE HOSTS WILD NIGHTS INSECT ADVENTURES ALL SUMMER

Join Audubon entomologists at Audubon Wilderness Park and learn about the fascinating things that fly after dark. You'll see many insects while hiking a trail and even more that are attracted to lights at Audubon's Wilderness Park on the West Bank of New Orleans.

The Audubon Nature Institute will host two events each month. Get more information and dates, and register at <http://audubonnatureinstitute.org/aquarium/wild-encounters/780-wild-nights-insect-adventure>

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